

Abstracts

341

of subjects victims of alopecia. Furthermore, 18.2% suffer from anxiety, 3.5% presented a social phobia and 4.4% paranoia. All these rates are above those noticed with the general population. **CONCLUSION:** These different results underline the necessity for assessing the psychological and even psychiatric consequences of hair loss for patients suffering alopecia. Demonstration is done that these patients need to have a relevant psychological help from their practitioners, who are very often themselves relying on the outside help of a pharmacological nature for assisting their work.

PGS2

PHARMACOECONOMIC MODELING IN ASSISTED REPRODUCTION TECHNOLOGIES: RECOMBINANT FSH VERSUS URINARY FSH

Auray JP¹, Duru G¹, Daya S², Ledger W³, Silverberg K⁴, Wikland M⁵, Bouzayen R⁶, Howles C⁷, Beresniak A⁷

¹National Center of Scientific Research, University of Lyon, Lyon, France; ²McMaster University, Hamilton, ON, Canada; ³University of Sheffield, Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield, UK; ⁴Texas Fertility Center, Austin, TX, USA; ⁵Carlander's Hospital, Göteborg, Sweden; ⁶Alifax University, Montreal, QC, Canada; ⁷Serono International SA, Geneve, Switzerland

OBJECTIVE: A single course of treatment with Assisted Reproduction Techniques (ART) may be viewed as incomplete treatment for the majority of infertile couples. A realistic comparison of both costs and therapeutic consequences must consider the cumulative costs of achieving an ongoing pregnancy after several cycles of treatment using Recombinant FSH (rFSH) or urinary FSH (uFSH). **METHOD:** A cost-effectiveness analysis included the Markov model and Monte-Carlo simulations. Information on costs and probabilities were provided by national formulary costs and clinic tariff, a meta-analysis (of randomized clinical trials), randomized controlled clinical trials, medical literature and national registries. All the data were validated by a panel of international experts. Because estimates for key clinical data will vary depending on the source, the estimates of variability among the transition probabilities were ratified by the expert panel according to UK experience. This approach provided a distribution of transition probabilities from which a precise standard deviation could be obtained for each outcome. The final Markov matrix included about 200 health states, computerized with a specific Pascal program, which covered the complete ART process including both fresh and cryopreserved embryos. **RESULTS:** After running 5000 simulations on a virtual population of 100,000 patients the results are: Total number of successes (pregnancy): 40,575 for rFSH and 37,358 for uFSH. Cost/success: £5906 (SD = £232) for rFSH and £6060 (SD = £279) for uFSH. Mean number of cycles/success: 4.59 for rFSH and 5.25 for uFSH. **CONCLUSION:** Recombinant FSH is more effective and more cost-effective than urinary derived FSH.

PGS3

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE RELATION BETWEEN SILDENAFIL USE AND QUALITY OF LIFE DIMENSIONS

Gaspar S¹, Macdonald K²

¹Pfizer Inc., New York, NY, USA; ²Shachtman-Fagan, Inc., Norwalk, CT, USA

OBJECTIVE: To identify the quality of life (QoL) dimensions relevant for men who currently take sildenafil to treat erectile dysfunction (ED) and to evaluate the impact of sildenafil use on these QoL dimensions. QoL studies can be a valuable tool for healthcare decision-makers as they assess the relative benefits and costs of sildenafil treatment for ED. **METHODS:** 500 men taking sildenafil were interviewed, using a structured questionnaire specifically developed for this study. Each had been diagnosed with ED by a physician. The respondents were asked to rate the extent to which sildenafil had affected both physical and emotional aspects of their life. **RESULTS:** Fifty-two percent had been taking sildenafil for more than 1 year. Eighty-six percent of the participants were married. Of the remaining 14%, 69% reported being in a committed relationship. The overall results indicate that QoL measures were high in men receiving sildenafil. The respondents (average age 62) reported that the QoL dimensions where sildenafil had the most impact were confidence, relationship with partner, sex life, and life overall. Sixty percent reported that they felt more confident after treating their ED with sildenafil. Eighty-two percent reported an improvement in their relationships with partners; 75% reported an improvement in their sex lives; and 66% reported an improvement in their overall lives. **CONCLUSION:** The results suggest that use of sildenafil to treat ED has a positive impact on patient's lives. The results also suggest that additional investigation into identifying relevant QoL items and domains for ED is warranted since this impact has been undetected by currently available QoL instruments.

PGS4

PRESENTATION OF THE 23-ITEM WOMEN'S HEALTH QUESTIONNAIRE (WHQ): SCORING AND INTERPRETATION ISSUES

Girod I¹, Keininger DL², de la Loge C¹, Hunter M³

¹Mapi Values, Lyon, France; ²Mapi Research Institute, Lyon, France; ³St Thomas' Hospital, London, UK

OBJECTIVE: The scoring of the Women's Health Questionnaire (WHQ) was reviewed as part of the International Health-related Quality of Life Database (IQOD) program. New hypotheses on item grouping were confirmed in different translated versions of the WHQ. Using this new conceptual model, reference values were developed per country and in different populations. **METHODS:** The scoring of the WHQ was reviewed using data from different countries: UK, US, France, Germany, Italy, Poland. The 23-item WHQ measures QoL in women, and